Jim Coleman

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SocSci - U. Chi.

Confidential Expertise

After I mailed in my 5/17
letter to NYT, I found your
piece in Tech. & Soc. The
NYT in any case leaves no
room for footnotes; but other journals
do.

Have you written further on
these dilemmas? My present
remarks just scratch the surface.
There is a lot of political theory and
broader social interest at issue.

(I was approached about joining
ESAC in 1984. One reason I said
no was that I was just starting
(what proved to be) a 5-year stint
writing a newspaper column, weekly
for the Washington Post and I felt that
I was incompatible.)

I wrote you a while ago about
your piece on academic consulting,
but got no answer.

It might be fruitful to run a
workshop on the politics and ethics

of expertise -- a couple of foundations
are deeply interested in the subject.

Yours,
Jim

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